

**APPLICANT AMENDS HER APPLICATION AS FOLLOWS:****IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Initial Amendment) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing a conic peak-point curve [~~with a computer~~] comprising [~~the steps of~~]:

(i) ~~(vi)~~ selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display of an implementing computer with a computer input device of the implementing computer;

(ii) ~~(vii)~~ selecting an end point,  $a_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device;

(iii) ~~(viii)~~ selecting a start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device;

(iv) ~~(ix)~~ selecting an end tangent direction,  $e_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device; [and]

(v) ~~(x)~~ selecting a distance of a peak point,  $p$  from the chord between the start and end points,  $a_0, a_1$ , on the computer image display system with the computer input device where the peak point is a point on the curve that is farthest away from the chord between the start and end points  $a_0, a_1$  lying on a centerline segment connecting the center of the chord with a intersection point  $[t]$  of rays extending in the start and end tangent directions  $e_0, e_1$  respectively from the start and end points  $a_0, a_1$ , whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae, constructs a conic peak-point curve passing through the start point  $a_0$ , the peak point  $p$ , and the end point  $a_1$ , with the start tangent direction  $e_0$  and the end tangent direction  $e_1$ ; and

(vi) expressing tangibly the conic peak-point curve using any image display system controlled by the implementing computer.

2. (Initial Amendment) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing a conic point-point curve [~~with a computer~~] comprising [~~the steps of~~]:

(i) ~~(v)~~ selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device of the implementing computer;

5 (ii) ~~(vi)~~ selecting a start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device; [and]

(iii) ~~(vii)~~ selecting a peak point,  $p$ , whereupon the computer image display system, responsive to the implementing computer, [~~system~~] displays a guide area for locating possible end points loci defined by two rays intersecting at a point  $s$  that lies on one of [~~the~~] two rays that extends from the start point  $a_0$  in the direction of the peak point  $p$  at twice (2X) the distance of the peak point  $p$  from the start point  $a_0$ , the remaining ray extending from  $s$  in a direction opposite to the start tangent direction  $e_0$ [,] ;

10 (iv) ~~(viii)~~ selecting with the computer input device any point in the guide area displayed on the computer image display system as an end point  $a_1$  [~~of the~~] for a conic point-point curve, whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae [~~then~~] constructs a conic point-point curve passing through the start point,  $a_0$ , peak point,  $p$ , and the end point  $a_1$  with the start tangent direction  $e_0$ , where [~~the~~] an end tangent direction  $e_1$  is derived from a point of intersection of [~~start and end tangents~~] rays extending in the start and end tangent directions  $e_0$ ,  $e_1$ , [~~that~~] which coincides with the intersection of a ray extending in the start tangent direction,  $e_0$  and a centerline extending through the center of a chord between the start and end points  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$ , and through the peak point,  $p$ ; and

15 (v) expressing tangibly the constructed conic point-point curve using any image display system controlled by the implementing computer.

3. (Initial Amendment) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing [ef]  
a conic point-tangent curve [~~with a computer~~] comprising [~~the steps of~~]:

(i) ~~(vi)~~ selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer  
with a computer input device of the implementing computer;

5 (ii) ~~(vii)~~ selecting a start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system with the computer  
input device;

(iii) ~~(viii)~~ selecting an end point,  $a_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input  
device;

10 (iv) ~~(ix)~~ selecting an end tangent direction,  $e_1$  on the computer image display system with the  
computer input device; [and]

(v) ~~(x)~~ selecting a [~~fixed~~] weight,  $w$  for the curve with a computer input device of the implementing  
computer, whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae,  
[~~then~~] constructs a conic point-tangent curve passing through the start point,  $a_0$ , and the end  
point  $a_1$  with the start tangent direction  $e_0$  and the end tangent direction  $e_1$ , where a peak point  
15  $p$  is calculated by the weight, [where the input weight]  $w$ , which is a parameter [defined as]  
defining a proportion between a distance,  $D_q$  of [a] the peak point  $p$  from a center point,  $q$  of a  
chord between the start and end points  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$  and a distance,  $D_r$  of the peak point  $p$  from an  
intersection point,  $[t]$   $r$  of rays extending in the start and end tangent[s] directions  $e_0$ ,  $e_1$   
respectively from the start and end point  $a_0, a_1$ ; and

20 (vi) expressing tangibly the constructed conic point-tangent curve using any image display system  
controlled by the implementing computer.

4. (Initial Amendment) The method of claim 3 wherein the selected ~~[fixed]~~ weight w is calculated from a fixed ~~[cos-weight-v, an]~~ arbitrarily defined positive number v, ~~[parameter that utilizes a multiplication factor such as a trigonometric cosine relationship for computing a weight that limits a permitted range of peak points of the possible curves]~~ multiplied by  $\cos(\alpha/2)$ , where  $\alpha$  is an angle  
5 between the start and end tangent directions  $e_0$ ,  $e_1$  extending from a common point, and the constructed curve converges to limit as  $\alpha$  approaches  $180^\circ$ .

5. (Initial Amendment) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing a conic point curve [~~with a computer~~] comprising [~~the steps of~~]:

(i) (v) selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device of the implementing computer;

(ii) (vi) selecting a start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device; [~~and~~]

(iii) (vii) selecting an end point,  $a_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device; [~~and~~]

(iv) (viii) selecting a [~~fixed~~] weight,  $w$ , with a computer input device of the implementing computer [~~for the curve~~], whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae, [~~then~~] constructs a conic point curve passing through the start point  $a_0$  and the end point  $a_1$  with the start tangent direction  $e_0$ , where an end tangent direction  $e_1$  is [~~automatically~~] set by pre-defined [~~program~~] parameters selected with a computer input device, where a peak point  $p$  is calculated by the weight  $w$ , which is a parameter defining a proportion between a distance  $D_q$  of the peak point  $p$  from a center point  $q$  of a chord between the start and end points  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$ , and a distance  $D_r$  of the peak point  $p$  from an intersection point  $r$  of rays extending in the start and end tangent directions  $e_0$ ,  $e_1$  respectively from the start and end point  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$ ; and

(v) expressing tangibly the constructed conic point curve using any image display system controlled by the implementing computer.

5 6. (Initial Amendment) The method of claim 5 wherein the selected ~~[fixed]~~ weight w is calculated from  
a fixed ~~[cos-weight-v, an]~~ arbitrarily defined positive number v, ~~[parameter that utilizes a~~  
~~multiplication factor such as a trigonometric cosine relationship for computing a weight that limits a~~  
~~permitted range of peak points of the possible curves]~~ multiplied by  $\cos(\alpha/2)$ , where  $\alpha$  is an angle  
between the start and end tangent directions  $e_0$ ,  $e_1$  extending from a common point, and the  
constructed curve converges to limit as  $\alpha$  approaches  $180^\circ$ .

7. (Initial Amendment) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing a conic curvature curve [~~with a computer~~] comprising [~~the steps of~~]:

(i) ~~(vii)~~ selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device of the implementing computer;

5 (ii) ~~(viii)~~ selecting a start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device, [;] whereupon the implementing computer displays a guideline perpendicular to the start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system for [~~the~~] a center  $m_0$  of [~~the~~] a start curvature circle,  $r_0$ ;

(iii) ~~(ix)~~ selecting a center  $m_0$  of the start curvature circle,  $r_0$  on the displayed guideline; and

10 (iv) ~~(x)~~ selecting an end point  $a_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device; and

(v) ~~(xi)~~ selecting an end tangent direction,  $e_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device, whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae, [draws] constructs a conic curvature curve through the [start and end points  $a_0, a_1$ ] start point  $a_0$  and the end point  $a_1$ , [with respective start and end tangent directions of  $e_0, e_1$ ] with the start tangent direction  $e_0$  and the end tangent direction  $e_1$ , with the center  $m_0$  of the start curvature circle  $r_0$ , and [~~the~~] a center  $m_1$  for [~~the~~] an end curvature circle  $r_1$  [~~which are automatically determined~~] is calculated; and

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20 (vi) expressing tangibly the constructed conic curvature curve using any image display system controlled by the implementing computer.

8. (Initial Amendment) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing a class of point curvature curves including cubic Bezier curves and conics [~~with a computer~~] comprising [~~the steps of~~]:

(i) (iv) selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device of the implementing computer;

(ii) (v) selecting a start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device, whereupon the implementing computer displays a guideline perpendicular to the start tangent direction,  $e_0$  for [~~the~~] a center  $m_0$  of [~~the~~] a start curvature circle  $r_0$  on the computer image display system;

(iii) (vi) selecting a center  $m_0$  of [~~the~~] a start curvature circle  $r_0$  on the displayed guideline on the computer image display system with the computer input device,; and

(iv) (xii) selecting an end point  $a_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device, whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae, [~~then~~] constructs a point curvature curve passing through the [~~start and end points  $a_0, a_1$~~ ] the start point  $a_0$  and the end point  $a_1$ , with the start tangent direction  $e_0$  and the center  $m_0$  of the start curvature circle  $r_0$ , where an end tangent direction  $e_1$  is [~~automatically~~] set by [~~selected~~] pre-defined [program] parameters selected with a computer input device; and

(v) expressing tangibly the constructed point curvature curve using any image display system controlled by the implementing computer.



9. (Initial Amendment) The method of claim 8 wherein the constructed curve is a conic and a center  $m_1$  of an end curvature circle  $r_1$  ~~[are]~~ is thereby automatically determined.
10. (Initial Amendment) The method of claim 8 wherein the constructed curve is a cubic Bezier curve, and a center  $m_1$  of the end curvature circle  $r_1$  is set by a ~~[selected]~~ defined ~~[program]~~ parameter selected using a computer input device.

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11. (Initial Amendment) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing a Bezier point-tangent curve ~~[with a computer]~~ comprising ~~[the steps of]~~:

(i) selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device of the implementing computer;

(ii) selecting a start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device;

(iii) selecting an end point,  $a_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device;

(iv) selecting an end tangent direction,  $e_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device; [and]

(v) selecting a ~~[fixed]~~ weight,  $w$  with an input device of the implementing computer ~~[for the curve]~~, whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae, ~~[then]~~ constructs a Bezier point-tangent curve passing through the start point,  $a_0$ , and the end point  $a_1$  with the start tangent direction  $e_0$  and the end tangent direction  $e_1$ , [and] having a peak point  $p$  calculated to lie on a centerline segment connecting a center point  $q$  of the chord between the start and end points  $a_0, a_1$  with an intersection point,  $[t]$   $r$  of rays extending in the start and end tangent[s] directions  $e_0, e_1$  from the start and end point  $a_0, a_1$  respectively, where the input weight  $w$  is a parameter defined as] the weight,  $w$  specifying a proportion between a distance,  $D_q$  of a peak point  $p$  from the center point  $q$  of a chord and a distance,  $D_r$  of the peak point  $p$  from the intersection point,  $[t]$   $r$  of the start and end tangents;

(vi) expressing tangibly the constructed Bezier point-tangent curve using any image display system controlled by the implementing computer.

12. (Initial Amendment) The method of claim 11 wherein the selected ~~[fixed]~~ weight w is calculated from a fixed ~~[cos-weight-v, an]~~ arbitrarily defined positive number v, ~~[parameter that utilizes a~~ multiplied by cos( $\alpha/2$ ), where  $\alpha$  is an angle between the start and end tangent directions  $e_0$ ,  $e_1$  extending from a common point, and the constructed curve converges to limit as  $\alpha$  approaches  $180^\circ$ .

13. (Initial Amendment) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing a Bezier point curve [~~with a computer~~] comprising [~~the steps of~~]:

(i) (~~ix~~) selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device of the implementing computer;

(ii) (~~x~~) selecting a start tangent direction,  $e_0$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device;

(iii) (~~xi~~) selecting an end point,  $a_1$  on the computer image display system with the computer input device;

(iv) (~~xii~~) selecting a fixed weight,  $w$ , [~~for the curve~~] with an input device of the implementing computer, whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae, [then] constructs a Bezier point curve passing through the start point  $a_0$  with the start tangent direction  $e_0$ , and the end point  $a_1$ , where an end tangent direction  $e_1$  is [automatically] set by [selected] pre-defined [program] parameters selected with an input device of the implementing computer, having a peak point  $p$  calculated to lie on a centerline segment connecting a center point  $q$  of the chord between the start and end points  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$  with an intersection point, [t]  $r$  of rays extending in the start and end tangent directions  $e_0$ ,  $e_1$  from the start and end point  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$  respectively, the weight,  $w$  specifying a proportion between a distance,  $D_q$  of a peak point  $p$  from the center point  $q$  of a chord and a distance,  $D_r$  of the peak point  $p$  from the intersection point, [t]  $r$  of the start and end tangents; and

(v) expressing tangibly the constructed Bezier point curve using any image display system controlled by the implementing computer.

14. (Initial Amendment) The method of claim 13 wherein the selected ~~[fixed]~~ weight w is calculated from a fixed ~~[cos-weight-v, an]~~ arbitrarily defined positive number v, ~~[parameter that utilizes a~~ multiplied by  $\cos(\alpha/2)$ , where  $\alpha$  is an angle ~~multiplication factor such as a trigonometric cosine relationship for computing a weight that limits a~~ between the start and end tangent directions  $e_0$ ,  $e_1$  extending from a common point, and the ~~permitted range of peak points of the possible curves]~~ constructed curve converges to limit as  $\alpha$  approaches  $180^\circ$ .

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15. (New Claim) A computer-implemented method for constructing and tangibly expressing a simple point-point curve comprising:

- (i) selecting a start point,  $a_0$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device of the implementing computer;
- (ii) selecting a peak point,  $p$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device, where the peak point is a point on the curve that is farthest away from the chord between the start and end points  $a_0, a_1$ ;
- (iii) selecting an end point  $a_1$  on a computer image display system of an implementing computer with a computer input device;
- (iv) selecting a weight  $w$  for the curve with a computer input device of the implementing computer, whereupon the implementing computer, using any suitable mathematical formulae, constructs a simple point-point curve passing through the start point,  $a_0$ , the peak point,  $p$ , and the end point  $a_1$ , where, using the weight  $w$ , a point  $r$  is derived on a centerline extending from a center point,  $q$ , of a chord between the start and end points,  $a_0, a_1$ , and through the peak point,  $p$ , establishing an intersection of rays extending through the start and end points,  $a_0, a_1$ , setting start tangent and an end tangent directions,  $e_0, e_1$ ; and
- (iv) expressing tangibly the constructed point-point curve using any image display system controlled by the implementing computer.